The supply of cloth, etc., for the Police Department.

135. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the names of the persons with full address who submitted tenders for the supply of cloth, etc., and for tailoring, invited by the notification in the Government Gazette for the dress of the officers, etc., of the Police Department, and the name of the person to whom the work was entrusted during each of the last three years;

(b) whether it was the lowest rate that was accepted; if not, why not;

(c) whether there was any written complaint to the Diwan about this matter; if so, what and when was it, and what were the orders of the Government in the matter;

(d) what is the amount of money spent each year for (i) the supply of cloth, etc., and (ii) for tailoring?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—(a) Tenders were neither invited nor submitted by anybody for the supply of cloth, etc., and for tailoring separately. In view of the answer above, the latter part of the question does not call for a reply.

(b) Do.

(c) A complaint has recently been received and is being enquired into.

(d) No separate estimates can be prepared in respect of items 1 and 2.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—This statement, part (a), that no tenders were invited for the purpose of clothing to the Police, is a direct contradiction to the Gazette Notification of 31st Medam 1102. May I know, Sir, which is the correct position?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Where is the notification?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Here it is.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Will the Member read that?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—(1) "Tenders are invited for the supply of clothing required for the Cochin Police Department according to the list published hereunder.

(3) "Tenders may be for all or any of the articles mentioned in the list. Every tender should be accompanied by a sample of the article tendered for as well as by a sum of money equal to 3% of the value of such articles.

(5) "The successful tenderers shall, within 15 days of the acceptance of the tender, deposit a sum of money equal to 10% of the value of the articles to be supplied as security, etc."

You say no tenders were invited?

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Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Not in the way the Hon'ble Member has put it. Sir, the question is, "will the Government be pleased to state the names of the persons with full address who submitted tenders for the supply of cloth, etc., and for tailoring," and the answer given is "Tenders were neither invited nor submitted by anybody for the supply of cloth, etc., and for tailoring separately." The question is fully answered.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The only tender called for is for cloth.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I have answered your question.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—My question is whether tenders were called for separately for the supply of cloth, etc., and tailoring. It is "separately." That is how it was understood by the Government also, for it will be found from the answer "Tenders were not called for cloth, etc., and tailoring separately." Here you have got a notification for cloth; for the other you may not have invited.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—We cannot give separate tenders. Clothing includes tailoring.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It is for cloth.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—It is for clothes.

President.—Are we on a verbal difficulty? Is your difference in meaning in regard to "cloths" and "clothes"?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I am afraid it is so, Sir.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Did you get any tenders in pursuance of this notification?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Oh, yes.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know who were the persons?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I cannot tell you now. To-morrow, I will expose them. I did not bring the file with me.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There was a written complaint before the Diwan. May I know what was the nature of the complaint?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—A complaint was sent in by 5 people who said that the clothing contract was not given to them.

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